

ROSE CARE SHEET

The “Queen of Flowers,” roses are celebrated for their beauty and fragrance. It is the modern roses, those developed since 1867, that are broken into the general categories of:

Hybrid Teas are the most widely grown roses in the world. The delicate blossoms are born on long, straight stems. The perfect cutting rose.

Floribundas are crosses between Hybrid Teas and Polyanthas. They are hardy, lower-growing plants with clusters of smaller flowers.

Grandifloras are crossed between Hybrid Teas and Floribundas. Long stems and flower form from the Hybrid Tea parent and hardiness and prolific from Floribunda.

Climbers don’t actually climb but have long, arching stems that can be tied to a support.

Miniatures are compact plants that are extremely hardy with perfect flower form. They are great for borders or containers.

Shrub Rose is a “catch all” category that includes many different types that tend to be carefree varieties more disease resistant than other roses. Most new varieties being developed fit into this category.

Care. Roses should be planted in sunny locations and spaced for adequate air circulation. We recommend well-amended soil, with Cotton Boll Compost added to the existing soil. Adding Myke to the hole will dramatically increase the plant’s ability to seek out moisture and nutrients. It takes a lot of energy to produce beautiful blooms all summer long and we highly recommend feeding roses monthly with a slow release fertilizer. Many successful rose gardeners also feed weekly with a diluted water soluble fertilizer.

Roses can be attractive to many plant pests as well. We suggest a preventative maintenance program that includes an insecticide and a fungicide. Black Spot and Powdery Mildew are two common diseases that are much easier to prevent than cure. Insects and disease can overwinter in the beds, so it is essential that beds be cleaned in the fall and all foliage be disposed of. Do not compost rose clippings. Modern roses should be pruned in the spring. Angle your pruning cut at 45 degrees above a strong outside bud.



Overwintering. Most modern roses are grafted, meaning an attractive desired rose is attached to the root stock of a hardy, wild rose. This bud union of the graft must be protected from freezing temperatures. Use a rose collar and mulch to protect the graft; this must be done after the ground freezes but before the temperature gets too extreme.

Some popular newer roses, like Knockouts, are not grafted and so do not need the same protection. Cut back non-grafted roses to the “body” of the plant and mulch lightly once the ground freezes. In early spring, cut back roses to 6-12”.

***For a list of the rose varieties we carry and their price, refer to the current Rose List available from our nursery.**



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